

Cayman Islands Astronomical Society - May 2024 Newsletter

1 message

Cayman Astronomy <cayman.astronomy@yahoo.com>

To: CI Astronomical Society CIAS <cayman.astronomy@yahoo.com>

Tue, May 7, 2024 at 11:19 PM

Cayman Islands Astronomical Society Upcoming events:

May - Eta Aquariid meteor shower

Thursday, 9 May - Public event at SMB Public Beach

Thursday, 16 May – Sun directly overhead

Sunday, 19 May - AGM

Monday, 3 June - Double space station flyby

Eta Aquariid meteor shower

Through mid-May

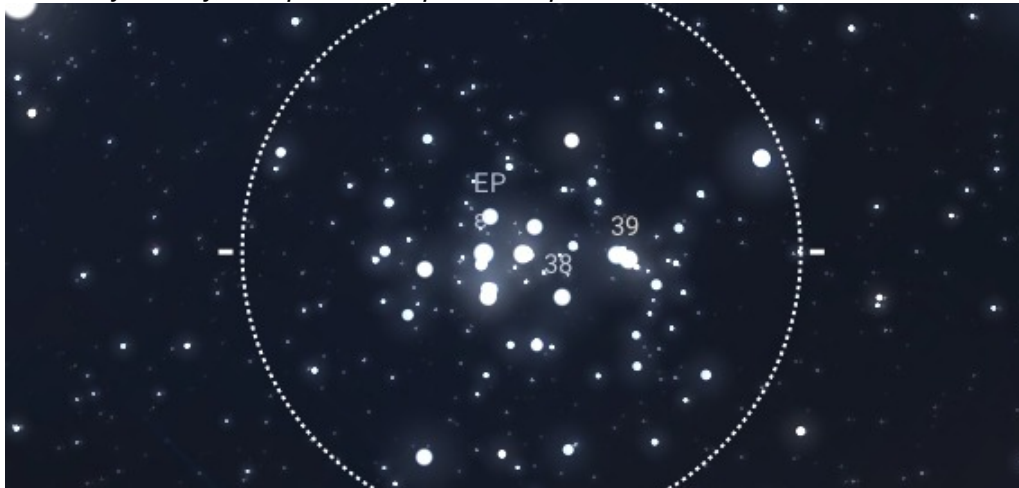


(Photo: Tiyen Miller, 6 May 2024, Grand Cayman)

Tiny chunks of Halley's comet can be seen blazing across the pre-dawn skies. The eta Aquariid meteor shower is one of the best of the year for the Cayman Islands due to our location in the tropics and moonless skies throughout the first half of the month. Learn more: <https://www.amsmeteors.org/meteor-showers/meteor-shower-calendar/>

Public Stargazing at SMB Public Beach

Thursday, 9 May, 7:30pm to 8:30pm, SMB public beach



(Image adapted from <http://www.stellarium-web.com>)

View the beautiful crescent moon as well as the "beehive" cluster of stars. We will also look for Tau Coronae Borealis - the "Blaze star". It is a fairly dim star that will likely go Nova in the coming months of 2024, when it

will brighten up tremendously for a week or so! Once it activates, we will surely have another event so you can compare the changes. The periodic novae are caused by the interactions between a pair of dissimilar binary stars and happen on an 80-year cycle. Learn more about T CrB: <https://www.skyatnightmagazine.com/space-science/t-coronae-borealis-nova>

Public events are free and all are welcome. Find us on the grassy patch near the parking lot. Check the [facebook page](#) for updates, as the event will be cancelled if there is over 50% cloud cover.

Sun directly overhead

Thursday, 16 May, 12:22pm



(Photo: Tiyen Miller)

On the 16th of May at 12:22 pm, the sun will be directly overhead, and you will cast no shadow! The ancient Hawaiian term for the moment is “kau ka lā i ka lolo” which means “when the sun sits on the brains”. Some linked traditions consider the moment to embody great energy as one’s shadow retreats into one’s body. Wow. Another name for the event is the “Lāhainā Noon”, a modern Hawaiian name meaning “cruel sun”. In any case, this event happens only twice a year in the Cayman Islands, so go outside and check it out. Learn more: <https://www.wrnsstudio.com/lahaina-noon-beyond-a-shadow/>

CIAS AGM

Sunday 19 May, 6:00pm to 7:00pm, Ocean Club boardwalk gazebo, 658 Shamrock Road, Grand Cayman

The annual general meeting is open to all members and those wishing to join the CIAS. Please indicate if you intend to attend, so we can prepare accordingly. Note that this is not a stargazing event.

Opportunities to see Space Stations passing overhead

Click on the date for a star chart and other pass details from heavens-above.com. The lower the magnitude (more negative), the brighter the pass.

You can learn more about how we can see the space station in our [ISS explainer video](#).

Note that on the evening of the 3rd of June, the ISS and Tiangong will pass over the Cayman Islands within a few minutes of each other.

International Space Station Passes (current crew of 7 people)

Click on the date to get a star chart and other pass details.

Date	Brightness (mag)	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
		Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
08 May	-2.5	19:33:26	10°	S	19:36:03	21°	SE	19:37:49	14°	E	visible
08 May	-0.5	21:10:28	10°	W	21:10:58	12°	WNW	21:10:58	12°	WNW	visible
09 May	-1.4	05:23:34	10°	NNW	05:26:29	28°	NE	05:29:23	10°	ESE	visible

Date	Brightness (mag)	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
		Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
09 May	-2.0	20:20:08	10°	WSW	20:23:10	32°	NW	20:26:12	10°	NNE	visible
10 May	-0.5	04:35:11	10°	NNE	04:37:01	14°	NE	04:38:51	10°	E	visible
10 May	-3.7	19:30:26	10°	SW	19:33:46	81°	NW	19:37:05	10°	NE	visible
11 May	-3.8	05:21:01	10°	NW	05:24:17	60°	SW	05:27:32	10°	SSE	visible
12 May	-3.0	04:31:38	10°	NNW	04:34:52	52°	NE	04:38:05	10°	SE	visible
12 May	-0.7	19:29:01	10°	W	19:31:30	19°	NW	19:33:58	10°	N	visible
13 May	-1.3	03:45:44	22°	ENE	03:45:44	22°	ENE	03:48:02	10°	ESE	visible
13 May	-2.0	05:19:59	10°	W	05:21:47	14°	SW	05:23:34	10°	SSW	visible

Date	Brightness (mag)	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
		Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
30 May	-1.7	20:48:10	10°	NNW	20:49:46	21°	N	20:49:46	21°	N	visible
31 May	-1.5	19:59:02	10°	NNE	20:00:48	14°	NE	20:01:44	12°	ENE	visible
01 Jun	-3.0	20:43:56	10°	NW	20:46:33	49°	WNW	20:46:33	49°	WNW	visible
02 Jun	-3.4	19:53:45	10°	NNW	19:56:57	47°	NE	19:58:36	24°	ESE	visible
03 Jun	-1.4	20:40:59	10°	W	20:43:01	15°	SW	20:43:30	15°	SW	visible
04 Jun	-2.5	19:49:43	10°	WNW	19:52:46	35°	SW	19:55:38	11°	SSE	visible

Tiangong (current crew of 3 people)

Click on the date to get a star chart and other pass details.

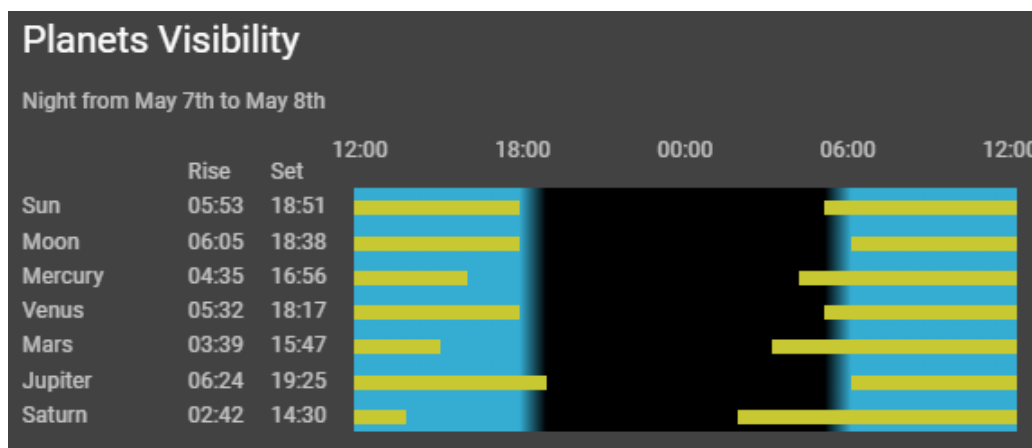
Date	Brightness (mag)	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
		Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
13 May	0.8	04:58:15	10°	SE	04:58:46	10°	SE	04:59:18	10°	SE	visible
15 May	-0.3	04:29:53	20°	SSE	04:30:41	22°	SE	04:33:09	10°	E	visible
16 May	-1.9	05:02:43	18°	WSW	05:04:47	53°	NW	05:07:49	10°	NE	visible

Date	Brightness (mag)	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
		Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
17 May	-0.5	04:03:21	32°	E	04:03:21	32°	E	04:05:20	10°	ENE	visible
18 May	-0.7	04:35:52	24°	NW	04:36:22	25°	NW	04:39:00	10°	NNE	visible
19 May	1.1	03:36:12	14°	NE	03:36:12	14°	NE	03:36:46	10°	NE	visible
20 May	0.5	04:08:24	13°	NNW	04:08:24	13°	NNW	04:09:27	10°	N	visible

Date	Brightness (mag)	Start			Highest point			End			Pass type
		Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	Time	Alt.	Az.	
02 Jun	0.0	04:57:13	10°	NNW	04:59:58	28°	NE	05:02:42	10°	E	visible
02 Jun	-1.2	19:45:20	10°	SSW	19:47:57	26°	SE	19:49:49	15°	E	visible
03 Jun	1.1	03:54:28	10°	N	03:56:02	13°	NNE	03:57:35	10°	ENE	visible
03 Jun	-1.1	20:17:36	10°	WSW	20:20:33	44°	NW	20:23:29	10°	NE	visible
04 Jun	-1.6	04:25:54	11°	NW	04:28:50	57°	NE	04:31:53	10°	ESE	visible
04 Jun	1.3	20:52:29	10°	NW	20:53:20	11°	NNW	20:54:12	10°	NNW	visible
05 Jun	-0.9	04:59:51	16°	W	05:01:17	21°	SW	05:03:43	10°	S	visible
05 Jun	0.4	19:46:40	10°	W	19:49:11	23°	NW	19:51:43	10°	NNE	visible

Planets Visibility

Here's the current visibility of the planets from [Stellarium-web.org](https://stellarium-web.org)



CIAS Membership

If you are interested in joining the CIAS, speak with any of us at our public events or drop us an email at the address below. All are welcome!

Annual dues are 15KYD for adults and 5KYD for children. Membership allows the use of club equipment and inclusion in our internal messaging. Members can also reach out to the public as volunteers at public events and special activities for more specific audiences, such as schools or other organisations.

Best regards,

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Tiyen Miller
President

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<http://www.cias.space>

[facebook.com/caymanastronomy](https://www.facebook.com/caymanastronomy)

The Cayman Islands Astronomical Society has been bringing together people with an interest in astronomy since 1991 with a goal of promoting astronomy to the public. CIAS is registered as a Non-Profit Organisation in the Cayman Islands (NP-358)